

FACT SHEET

FINAL RULE TO REDUCE TOXIC AIR EMISSIONS FROM PRIMARY MAGNESIUM REFINERIES

ACTION

- ! On August 25, 2003, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rule to reduce emissions of toxic air pollutants from primary magnesium refineries. Toxic air pollutants, or air toxics, are known or suspected to cause cancer and other health problems including disorders of the blood, heart, kidneys, reproductive system, and central nervous system.
- ! Primary magnesium refineries produce magnesium metal from the waters of the Great Salt Lake. The only primary magnesium refinery operating in the United States is U.S. Magnesium Corporation located in Rowley, Utah.
- ! EPA developed today's final rule by adopting emission limits from the plant's operating permit issued by the State of Utah Department of Environmental Quality.
- ! The final rule will control emissions of three air toxics (chlorine, hydrochloric acid, and dioxin/furan) and particulate matter (PM).
- ! This rule requires plant owners or operators to maintain air pollution control equipment and meet emission limits at each emissions point. This rule requires continuous monitoring to ensure that the control equipment is working properly.

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND COSTS

- ! The Utah magnesium refinery subject to today's rule is already controlling its toxic air emissions. This rule will not result in further reductions in emissions.
- ! EPA estimates the total annualized costs for the Utah refinery to comply with this rule to be \$48,000. This will cover monitoring, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements.

BACKGROUND

- ! The Clean Air Act requires EPA to identify categories of industrial sources that emit one or more of the listed 188 toxic air pollutants.

- ! This rule applies to the existing primary magnesium refinery and will apply to any new refinery that is a major source of toxic air pollutants. Major sources are those that emit 10 tons per year or more of a single toxic air pollutant, or 25 tons per year or more of a combination of toxic air pollutants.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ! To download a copy the rule, go to EPA's World Wide Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg> under newly proposed or issued rules.
- ! For further information about the final rule, contact Ms. Lula Melton of EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards at (919) 541-2910 or melton.lula@epa.gov.
- ! The EPA's Office of Air and Radiation's homepage on the Internet contains a wide range of information on the air toxics program and many other air pollution programs and issues. The Office of Air and Radiation's home page address is: (<http://www.epa.gov/oar/>).